

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 26, 2008. Claims 1, 4, 10, 12, 21, 25 and 28 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 21 and 25 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 9 to 12, 14, 15, 17 to 19, 21, 22 and 25 to 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,809,831 (Minari). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing method of recording or accumulating job log information on a job issued from a client computer to an image forming apparatus. The method includes an acquisition step of acquiring the job log information from the client computer or the image forming apparatus, wherein the job log information includes driver information and port information, the driver information identifying a driver program which is performed in the client computer and generates the issued job; a driver information acquisition step of acquiring the driver information from the job log information acquired in the acquisition step; a port information acquisition step of acquiring the port information from the job log information acquired in the acquisition step; a determination step of determining whether or not to record or accumulate the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, in accordance with a determination as to whether or not at least one of the driver information acquired in the driver information acquisition step and the port information acquired in the port information acquisition step is registered in a non-recording target database; and a recording/accumulation step of recording or accumulating the job log information determined in the determination step to be

recorded or accumulated. At least one of the driver information and the port information registered in the non-recording target database are used for specifying job log information corresponding in the determination step, it is determined by using the driver information that the job log information related to an issued job which is not accompanied by a printout and should not be recorded or accumulated. The driver information related to a driver used for outputting a PDF file to the client computer or an external device is registered in the non-recording target database, and the port information indicating that a job is output to a device which does not have a printing function is registered in the non-recording target database.

Claims 21 and 25 are directed to a server and a computer-readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that Minari neither discloses nor suggests all of the features of Claims 1, 21 and 25. Specifically, Minari fails to disclose or suggest acquiring port information from job log information acquired in an acquisition step, determining whether or not to record or accumulate the job log information acquired in the acquisition step, in accordance with a determination as to whether or not at least one of the driver information acquired in the driver information acquisition step and the port information acquired in the port information acquisition step is registered in a non-recording target database. In addition, Minari neither discloses nor suggests recording or accumulating the job log information wherein[[],] said at least one of the driver information and the port information registered in the non-recording target database are used for specifying job log information corresponding to an issued job which is not accompanied by a printout and should not be recorded or accumulated, wherein the driver information related to a driver used for outputting a PDF file to the client computer or an external device is registered in the non-recording target database, and wherein the port information

indicating that a job is output to a device which does not have a printing function is registered in the non-recording target database.

In contrast to the present invention, Minari discloses that a printer 107 performs print processing based on a print job object sent from a host computer and adds a result of the processing (success or failure) to the print job object to sent back to the host computer.

In Minari, the print job object has an attribute for specifying a printer to be used for printing the print job object. The attribute includes a printer name, printing request, paper size, host name and so on. For example, after S902 in fig. 9 of Minari, it is disclosed that printer 107 refers the attribute of the received print job object, performs printing processing based on the print job object when the attribute specifies the printer 107, and transfers the print job object to the other printer set in the attribute when the attribute does not specify the printer 107. Also, as disclosed in Fig. 12 of Minari, the attribute is used on processing the received print job object and it is determined in S1002 whether or not the attribute in the print job object matches an attribute of the printer 107. If the printer 107 cannot handle the print job object, the printer 107 adds information “Mismatch” in the print job object and replies with that information to the host computer 101.

However, Minari does not discloses the feature that at least one of the driver information and the port information registered in the non recording target database are used for specifying job log information corresponding to an issued job which is not accompanied by a printout and should not be recorded or accumulated. This is because Minari assumes that, as a printing object is sent to a printing device, there is no suggestion that a print object should includes driver information and port information. Therefore, Minari neither discloses nor

suggests specifying job log information corresponding to an issued job which should not be recorded or accumulated, as recited in the claims of the present application.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that Minari does not disclose that the driver information related to a driver used for outputting a PDF file to the client computer or an external device is registered in the non-recording target database and that the port information indicating that a job is output to a device which does not have a printing function is registered in the non-recording target database, as featured in the claims.

In light of the deficiencies in Minari, Applicant submits that Claims 1, 21 and 25 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

The Director is authorized to charge the \$130 one-month extension fee to Deposit Account No. 50-3939. The Director is further authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Frank Cire #42,419/
Frank L. Cire
Attorney for Applicant

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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